

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INRE-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 AID-05

IGA-01 EB-07 COME-00 FRB-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01

AGR-05 /090 W

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O R 191055Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3277

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 194

AID FOR DONALD BROWN

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, MILL, MZ

SUBJECT: CALL ON MOZAMBIQUE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 133 (NOTAL); (B) LOURENCO MARQUES 170
(NOTAL); (C) LOURENCO MARQUES 176 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: HIGH COMMISSIONER TOLD ME FEBRUARY 18 THAT: (A) U.S. DESTROYER VISIT PROPOSED FOR FEB 8-9 HAD BEEN APPROVED BY MOZAMBIQUE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TOO LATE TO REVIVE LISBON'S CANCELLED CLEARANCE; (B) MOZAMBIQUE DEFINITELY NEEDED U.S. PL 480 TITLE I WHEAT (SIC) AND HE WOULD PERSONALLY DISCUSS MATTER WITH PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO; (C) TO OBTAIN FIRM DATE FOR U.S. ECONOMIC SURVEY TEAM WE SHOULD APPROACH FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM.

1. IN CALL ON HIGH COMMISSIONER ADMIRAL VICTOR CRESPO WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR AF/S ARENALES, WE DISCUSSED ABOVE-MENTIONED THREE TOPICS PLUS RECENT SERIES OF ANTI-AMERICAN MATERIAL IN LOCAL PRESS (SEE SEPTTEL).

2. RE PROPOSED VISIT OF USS TRIPPE AND HEWES, FEB 8-9, I ASKED CRESPO WHETHER HE HAD DISCUSSED DESTROYER VISIT A SECOND TIME WITH PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO. HE SAID THAT HE HAD DONE SO JUST BEFORE HE LEFT FOR LISBON (REF A) AND THAT CHISSANO HAD REVERSED HIMSELF AND AGREED TO ALLOW THIS PARTICULAR VISIT, DESPITE HIS ORIGINAL MISGIVINGS CONCERNING POSSIBLE POLITICAL EXPLOITATION OF VISIT IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES' PRESS. HOWEVER, MTG'S AGREEMENT HAD COME THROUGH TOO LATE TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH LISBON TO RE-INSTATE THE CANCELLED PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT CLEARANCE.

3. RE WHEAT, I WENT OVER SAME GROUNDS WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER AS I HAD WITH SECRETARY GENERAL AGUIAR, CONCERNING MOZAMBIQUE'S NEEDS FOR PL 480 TITLE I WHEAT ON NORMAL TERMS (REF B).

BEFORE I COULD FINISH, CRESPO STATED THAT THIS WAS A MOST IMPORTANT MATTER AND THAT U.S. WHEAT AID WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO MTG. I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT SECRETARY GENERAL AGUIAR, AT MY REQUEST, HAD ALREADY QUERIED CHISSANO, WHO HAD CLEARLY STATED TO AGUIAR THAT MOZAMBIQUE'S WHEAT NEEDS FOR THIS YEAR WOULD BE SATISFIED BY SHIPMENTS ALREADY UNDER WAY PLUS FUTURE ROMANIAN WHEAT AID. HIGH COMMISSIONER INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT ROMANIAN OFFER OF WHEAT LOAN WAS NEITHER DEFINITE
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NOR FINALIZED. HE SAID WITH SOME FORCE THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY DISCUSS MATTER WITH PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO, AND THAT HE BELIEVED THE BEST WAY U.S. COULD HELP MOZAMBIQUE DURING THIS DIFFICULT PRE-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD WAS THROUGH FOOD AID. (HE SPECIFICALLY INTERJECTED, ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE* THAT A FINAL DECISION ON THE USE OF THE \$10 MILLION SECTION 50 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT AID FOR PORTUGAL AND ITS TERRITORIES HAD STILL NOT BEEN MADE BY PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT. WE DID NOT

DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER.) AS DISCUSSED WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR ARENALES PRIOR TO MEETING, I EMPHASIZED THAT I WAS NOT EMPOWERED TO MAKE ANY SPECIFIC WHEAT OFFER, THAT IT WAS NOT OUR INTENTION PUSH WHEAT DOWN PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO'S THROAT AND THAT I HOPED HE WOULD MAKE THIS CLEAR TO THE PRIME MINISTER. CRESPO SAID HE UNDERSTOOD.

4. RE ECONOMIC SURVEY TEAM, WE TOLD HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT WE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO GET PRIME MINISTER'S DECISION ON FIRM DATES FOR THE TEAM'S VISIT. CRESPO STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT WE PIN THIS MATTER DOWN WITH FRELIMO OFFICIALS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM. WHEN I SAID THAT I HAD ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED THIS TO BE "AN OPERATIONAL MATTER", BUT HAD BEGUN TO WONDER, HE SAID THAT THE DECISION ON THE TIMING WOULD ALMOST UNDOUBTEDLY BE MADE IN DAR-ES-SALAAM. HE SPECIFICALLY RECOMMENDED THAT WE APPROACH FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT MARCELINO DOS SANTOS WHO WAS HANDLING GROUP'S FOREIGN RELATIONS. HE ADDED THAT UPON INDEPENDENCE, DOS SANTOS WOULD PROBABLY BECOME BOTH VICE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER. HE THEN MADE GENERAL OBSERVATION THAT ANY REPEAT ANY MATTER WHICH INVOLVED MOZAMBIQUE'S "FUTURE" (I.E., WOULD AFFECT MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT AFTER INDEPENDENCE) SHOULD BE DISCUSSED FIRST WITH FRELIMO IN DAR ES SALAAM RATHER THAN HERE. FOR PRE-INDEPENDENCE MATTERS, WHICH COMMISSIONER WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO OFFER TO ASSIST AS INFORMAL BRIDGE TO TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

5. COMMENT: (A) RE PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO'S REPORTED CLEARANCE OF DESTROYER VISIT, THERE ARE SOME ELEMENTS OF HIGH COMMISSIONER'S ACCOUNT, PARTICULARLY TIMING, ON WHICH HE MAY HAVE BEEN CONFUSED. AS THIS IS AN IMPORTANT POINT, UNLESS DEPARTMENT OBJECTS WE SUGGEST EMBASSY LISBON AND/OR USDAO CHECK WITH PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES AS TO WHETHER THEY HAVE ANY RECORD OF MTG REVERSING ITSELF AND GIVING APPROVAL FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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VISIT. (B) RE U.S. WHEAT, WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT SHOULD DEFER FURTHER CONSIDERATION THIS MATTER UNTIL DISCREPANCY BETWEEN WHAT SECRETARY GENERAL TOLD ME AND WHAT HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID RE REPORTED ROMANIAN WHEAT COMMITMENT CAN BE CLARIFIED. WILL REPORT AS SOON AS I HEAR FROM HIGH COMMISSIONER. HOWEVER, WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM LOCAL JOURNALIST, WHO INTERVIEWED DIRECTOR MOZAMBIQUE CEREALS INSTITUTE, THAT 51,000 TONS OF ROMANIAN WHEAT SCHEDULED ARRIVE IN THREE SHIPMENTS IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY. (C) RE STUDY TEAM, WE BELIEVE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S SUGGESTION OF APPROACH TO FRELIMO OFFICIALS IN DAR TO EXPEDITE DECISION ON DATES OF VISIT SHOULD BE USED ONLY AS LAST RESORT, IN ORDER AVOID GOING OVER PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO'S HEAD UNLESS NECESSARY. IF AND WHEN SUCH APPROACH BECOMES NECESSARY, IT COULD BE MADE IN CONTEXT OF EASUM/MACHEL MEETING.

(C) SEPTTEL FOLLOWS CONCERNING DISCUSSION OF ANTI-US PRESS
ARTICLES.
WALKER

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